

B GWSF
10.3

3-2-2006

ADVERTISE HERE

CALL
360-782-0223



Internet Explorer cannot display the webpage



The SUN
MORE LOCAL NEWS:



BREMERTON Mandated tidying up

By **Steve Corda**, Sun staff

Return to
KitsapSun.com

You have reached a
page in our news
archive. Please note
that some of the
links may have
changed over time.



Inter

Most



What

D



Several months ago, properties on Pennsylvania Avenue and Arsenal Way owned by Bill and Natacha Sesko had been found by Bremerton administrative boards to be **illegal junkyards** and two Kitsap County Superior Courts to be public nuisances and authorized by the city to clean up the two properties. The Seskos, standing by the gate at their Arsenal Way property, appealed both Superior Court judgements. The Court of Appeals has ruled that the Seskos' allegations were without merit and that Bremerton was correct in its efforts to clean up the properties.

Staff photo by Steve Zugschwerdt

A local man has been ordered to clean up
what the city calls illegal junkyards.

One man's trash may be another man's treasure, but the city of Bremerton wants William Sesko to clean up both the junk and treasures that fill two of his properties.

Sesko said he needs the cars, trucks, tanks and other items stacked throughout his properties on Arsenal Way and Pennsylvania Avenue for his

USEPA SF



1359462

work as an inventor and mechanic. The city said the property, one of which used to hold the Perl's Pavilion dance hall, are illegal junkyards and a public nuisance.

The Washington State Court of Appeals, upholding two Kitsap Superior Court judgments in the latest round of a five-year battle between the Sesko and Bremerton, agrees with the city.

Assistant city attorney Knute Rife said Sesko now has 30 days to appeal the decision. After that time, or if the Supreme Court refuses to hear Sesko's appeal, the appellate court will send the case back to the Kitsap County Superior Court for enforcement of the cleanup orders.

Sesko said this latest turn doesn't tell the whole story of his dealings with the city. He said he has offered to build a structure on his property to house everything he has collected.

As an inventor, Sesko said he's in the business of "making things" and to make things, "you've got to have something to make it out of." The items in the yard represent the raw materials with which he works, he said.

He's willing to work with the city to try to come up with a solution. But it has progressed too far for him to make the city happy.

"They're saying I've got to remove everything (from the five-acre Arsenal Way property)," he said. "But where do you start?"

In the city's eyes, the starting point was passed years ago. Janet Lunceford, responsible for code enforcement in the city, said the property was once cleared under an order from Kitsap County. Once the city annexed the Arsenal Way area in 1991, she said, the pileup began again.

"There's lots of machinery," Lunceford said. "A lot of tanks, trucks, cars. If it's metallic, it's probably there."

The city says Sesko needs a special use permit to store everything there that he does. The area is

zoned for an industrial park use, so he could have gotten a permit to run a junkyard. In order to do that however, Sesko would have to make the pileup invisible from the outside.

Sesko said he has planted trees and put up fencing to help hide the buildup from view.

Too little, too late, counters the city. A junkyard can't get a special-use permit "after the fact," according to Lunceford.

Sesko can clean the area, get a special-use permit and start packratting again.

Published in The Sun: 03/02/2000

Top of Page

SEND A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

SUBSCRIBE TO THE SUN



SunLink © 1996 - 2001 - An online publication of THE SUN NEWSPAPER of Bremerton, Wash., a Scripps Howard newspaper. Webmaster: Adam Shelton, 360-792-8562. , 360-792-8562.